



12/20/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)
WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Dkt. 1417-377

Date: December 20, 2001

Sir:

10/022801
12/20/01
10/022801
12/20/01

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:
SPINDLE-SHAPED MAGNETIC ALLOY PARTICLES FOR MAGNETIC RECORDING, AND MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

☐ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract
31 pages of specification and claims (including 13 numbered claims), and
sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

☐ Record the attached assignment and return to the undersigned.

☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.

☒ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

| Application Number | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed |
|--------------------|---------|----------------------|
| 2000-399312 | Japan | 27/12/2000 |

, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

☐ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

☐ Certified copy(ies) filed on _____ in prior application no. _____ filed _____

☐ Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

☐ Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/☐ continuation-in-part of Application No. _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

☐ Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.

☐ The prior application is assigned to _____.

☐ It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.

☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.

☐ Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment **prior** to calculation of filing fee:

☐ Also attached: ☐ Information Disclosure Statement; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; ☐ Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application; ☐ Other:

1. Inventor: Masaaki MAEKAWA Japanese
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)
Residence: (city) Hiroshima-ken (state/country) Japan
Mailing Address: 1-20-202, Misuji 1-chome Saeki-ku, Hiroshima-shi, Hiroshima-ken, Japan
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2. Inventor: Haruki KUROKAWA Japanese
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Residence: (city) Hiroshima-ken (state/country) Japan
Mailing Address: Rumieru II Koishonmachi 305, 11-11, Koishonmachi 3-chome, Nishi-ku, Hiroshima-shi, Hiroshima-ken, Japan
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☒ See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!

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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.
By Atty: Arthur R. Crawford, Reg. No. 25,327

Signature:

| | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|-----------------|---------------|
| 3. | Inventor: | Kenji | OKINAKA | Japanese |
| | | (first) | (last) | (citizenship) |
| | Residence: (city) | Yamaguchi-ken | (state/country) | Japan |
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| 4. | Inventor: | Akinori | YAMAMOTO | Japanese |
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FILED FOR